

JANUARY 7, 2024

How will we know...*what* we know,
the light which both illuminates & draws



Warwick River Mennonite Church

A congregation of
Mennonite Church USA

250 Lucas Creek Road, Newport News, VA 23602

757-874-0794

warwickrivermc@gmail.com

www.warwickrivermennonite.org

WELCOME HOME TO Warwick River Mennonite Church

In-person Sunday School: 9:30-10:30 a.m.

Virtual Coffee Connect: 10 a.m.

In-person and Virtual Worship Service: 10:40 a.m.

In-person Coffee Connect follows Worship Service

Recorded Sermons available at www.warwickrivermennonite.org

VMC Eastern District Overseer: Ryan Ahlgrim

Pastor: Steve Wiebe-Johnson wrmcpastor01@gmail.com

Pastor's telephone (574) 849-2021

Church Elder: Chris Miller wrmcelderchris@gmail.com

Church Elder: Ann Aulich wrmcelderann@gmail.com

Member-at-Large: Laura Siebels wrmcmemberatlarge1@gmail.com

Congregation Chair: Tom Salyers wrmccongregationchair@gmail.com

Outreach Chair: Sue Yoder wrmcoutreach@gmail.com

Worship Chair: Mary Dawn Carrier worshipwrmc@gmail.com

Fellowship Chair: Jenn Salyers wrmcfellowship@gmail.com

Stewardship Chair: Tom Salyers wrmcstewardship@gmail.com

Office Admin - Pat O'Connor office hours: Tuesday – Friday, 10:30am – 4:30pm

Serving Today:

Sermon: Pastor Steve Wiebe-Johnson

Worship Leader: MaryDawn Carrier

Song Leader: Don Brunk

Reader: Jackie Zimmerman

Greeter: Ann Aulich

Zoom Host: Don Brunk

Warwick River Mennonite Church HOW TO CONNECT

***Worship Service * Sunday School * Meetings ***

Computer: [Click Here](#) to enter Zoom Meeting

*MEETING ID: 846 7407 1811 *PASSWORD: 809884

Phone: 929-205-6099

*MEETING ID: 846 7407 1811 *PASSWORD: 809884

If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to

Don Brunk (610-787-0823)

-- Gathering --

Welcome

Advent Candle lighting

Leader: Together we carry the light.

Candle lighter: This is what we know.

Leader: Now go, basking in the glow of Christ! We have become God's heirs, members of one body, and sharers of the promise. Amen!

***Hymn of Praise and Gathering**

Call to Worship:

Leader: Arise, shine; for your light has come and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

People: Lift up your eyes and look around; they gather and come to you.

Right side: You shall see and be radiant;

Left side: your heart shall thrill and rejoice and proclaim the praise of the Lord.

Leader: The mystery of Christ has been revealed by the Spirit. We have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise of Christ through the gospel.

People: We know this through faith in Christ. May our lights shine!

All: Together we carry the light.

***Hymn of Preparation**

***Children's Moment:**

~ Pastor Steve Wiebe-Johnson

-- Hearing from God's Word --

Scripture Readings:

Isaiah 60: 1-6

Psalms 72: 1-7; 10-14

Ephesians 3: 1-12

Matthew 2: 1-12

Sermon: How will we know...what we know?

The Light which both illuminates and draws.

~ Pastor Steve Wiebe-Johnson

-- Responding to Worship --

***Hymn of Response**

Sharing of Blessings and Concerns

Offertory Prayer & Offering

Sharing of Announcements

-- Sending --

***Song of Sending**

Prayer of Sending/Benediction

In the persistence and presence of the magi, the outsiders, we are invited to recognize in ourselves and others the light of Jesus that shines on, illuminating the shadows of injustice, fear, and oppression and inviting reconciliation with one another and with God. The story isn't just about a baby born in a stable or even just about those through whom God has worked throughout Scriptures. It is also the story about us, the bearers of God's light in the world today. On Epiphany, we are invited to recognize and embrace the light that has come, and to share God's peace, joy, hope, and love in the world.

As we go, let us walk in the light of Christ that has come into the world.

December 31, 2023 Offering ~~~~~ Worship Service Attendance 46

\$	366.00	Offertory for FY2023
\$	23.00	Coffee Connect designated to General Fund
\$	50.00	Paypal
\$	439.00	Offertory total 12/31/2023

Budget Offertory collected YTD 12/01/2022-12/31/2023=\$124,312.30

Fiscal Year ends 12/31/2023 # **Deficit: \$26,187.70 as of 12/31/23 #**

Thank you for your continued gifts to God and Church

Deuteronomy 16:17

12/31/2023 Building Fund Balance to date \$ 1,545,679.05*

(*includes \$12,947.05 estimated value stock shares)

Warwick River Mennonite Church is grateful for your financial support and committed to exercising faithful stewardship over the funds contributed to us. We are aware of the many sacrifices you make in order to provide these gifts, and sincerely pledge to see that these dollars are used wisely, especially during these times of uncertainty. Consistent offerings are so important to your church. For PayPal, you may go directly to: [Donate \(paypal.com\)](https://www.paypal.com)





Vision: Healing & Hope –
*God calls us to be followers of Jesus Christ and,
 by the power of the Holy Spirit, to grow as communities of
 grace, joy, and peace, so that
 God's healing and hope flow through us to the world.*

Prayer and Praise Requests

- ❖ "The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The LORD is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?" ~Psalm 27:1
- ❖ Mennonite Mission Network requests prayer for Lora Nafziger and Mitch Rhodes, who began a three-year assignment in September with United Mission to Nepal (UMN), working from the United States. Pray for this family, as Lora, Mitch and two of their four sons take up residence in Kathmandu, Nepal, this month. Lora is serving as UMN's staff support and counseling advisor, and Mitch serves as the expatriate coordinator.
- ❖ Prayers of health and healing for all those undergoing health challenges known and unknown to us.
- ❖ Prayer and Praise concerns are always welcome & may be requested or updated by calling or emailing Pat O'Connor in the Church Office:
 (757)-874-0794 or warwickrivermc@gmail.com

Upcoming Events:

- ❖ Sun., Jan 7 Epiphany Sunday
 9:30am Adult & Children's Sunday School (School Building)
 10:40am Sunday Worship Service (Chapel)
- ❖ Sun., Jan 7th Proposed Budget for consideration to WRMC congregation
- ❖ Tues., Jan 9th Community Prayer Group resumes
- ❖ Thurs., Jan 11th Committee Chairs 2023 Annual Reports Due today
- ❖ Thurs., Jan 11th Threads Together sewing group meets (School Building)
- ❖ Sat., Jan 27th 9:00 a.m. WRMC Annual Congregational Meeting

Announcements:

January 14, 2024: Caleb Schrock-Hurst is scheduled as a Guest Speaker at WRMC. Caleb is with the Virginia Mennonite Conference and there will be more information to come. Welcome!



A message from the front office:

COMMITTEE CHAIRS: 2023 Annual Reports are coming due please take a moment to schedule a time you may prepare and submit. If you need help in any way, or perhaps a format to follow, please let me know. The preferred format is WORD (via email, to: warwickrivermc@gmail.com). If you have already submitted your report, thank you!
 ~Thank you very much, Pat O'Connor



Epiphany

Happy Birthday!

- January 7 John Cassel
- January 10 Sue Yoder (Snooky)
- January 10 Nicole Mulamba
- January 11 Christian Shenk
- January 13 Olivia Wagner
- January 15 Anna Longacher

